(a) whether India and Canada have agreed to form a semi-formal mechanism and a joint ministerial committee for a sustained momentum to bilateral relations and to improve the trade between the two countries;

(b) if so, to what extent both Canada and India has agreed to give a boost to the trade between the two countries;

(c) what is the present level of trade between the two countries; and

(d) to what extent it will improve during the current financial y

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) It has been decided to establish a Joint Ministerial Committee headed by the External Affairs Ministers of the two countries to work towards intensifying cooperation in the economic as well as commercial and political fields.

(b) to (d) Both India and Canada attach great importance to the economic and commercial relations between the two countries and it is hoped that the Joint Ministerial Committee would provide the necessary forum to give momentum to bilateral relations particularly in the economic and commercial fields.

The present level of trade between the two countries as per DGCI&S figures for 11 months period (April. '96–Feb. '97) is as follows :

Exports	–	Rs. 1112.04 Cr.
Imports	–	Rs. 1003.47 Cr.
Total Trade	–	Rs. 2115.51 Cr.

Improvement in trade will depend on various factors such as market conditions, international competition promotional efforts etc.

Complaints on Misappropriation of Funds in Purchasing by MTC

6667. SHRI RAMASHRAYA PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any complaints about misappropriation of funds and bungling in purchasing of articles from Mica Trading Corporation of India Ltd. working under Minerals and Metal Trading Corporation of India;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have taken any action against those officers involved in the matter;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (e) Do not arise.

Manpower in Coal India Limited

6668. SHRI HARADHAN ROY : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) the details of production and manpower in different subsidiaries of Coal India Limited on the date of Nationalisation as compared to that of as on December 31, 1996 per production, Executives, Non-executives, Wagon Loaders, Trammer and U/G Loaders;

(b) whether there is any decline in the manpower in different subsidiaries; and

(c) if so, reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH): (a) The details of production and manpower in different subsidiaries of Coal India Limited on the date of nationalisation i.e. 1.5.73 as compared to that of 31.12.1996 are as under :-

As on 1.5.73			As on 31.12.96		
Division	Manpower	Production (TPD)	Company	Manpower	Production (TPD)
1	2	3	4	5	6
BCCL	179,781	56,001	BCCL	143,965	99,000
EASTERN	174,606	69,110	ECL	158,918	101,500

1	2	3	4	5	6
CENTRAL	81,188	20,000	CCL	92,250	118,000
			NCL	16,908	119,000
WESTERN	85,592	21,960	WCL	84,860	103,000
			SECL	99,214	177,700
			MCL	23,337	113,500
			CMPDIL	3,924	–
			CIL/NEC	4,783	4,000
			CIL/ (DCC & (CIL Hq)	2,243	–
TOTAL	521,167	167,070	TOTAL	630,402	835,700

Company-wise – Category wise
Breakup of Manpower as on 31.12.96 is as under :-

Company	Executive	Non-executives					
		Wagon Loaders	Trammers	UG Loaders	Other	Total Non-executive	Overall Total
BCCL	3,440	5,253	6,226	31,027	98,019	140,525	143,965
ECL	3,361	8,267	13,811	28,693	104,785	155,557	158,918
CCL	3,288	2,153	2,878	12,094	71,837	88,962	92,250
NCL	1,316	–	–	–	15,592	15,592	16,908
WCL	2,441	14,298	215	2,652	65,254	82,419	84,860
SECL	3,099	27	7,332	11,869	76,887	96,115	99,214
MCL	1,221	–	351	2,869	18,896	22,116	23,337
CMPDIL	1,037	–	–	–	2,887	2,887	3,924
NEC	148	–	–	–	4,635	4,635	4,783
DEC & CIL Hq	483	–	–	–	1,760	1,760	2,243
Total	19,834	29,998	30,813	89,204	460,552	610,568	630,402

Since nationalisation, due to reorganisation of subsidiaries of CIL from time to time, company-wise-category-wise figures of manpower at the time of nationalisation are not readiy available.

(b) & (c) There is decline in the overall manpower in Coal India Ltd. over the last few years as well as in ECL, BCCL & WCL. NCL, MCL & SECL being expanding companies have no scope for decline in manpower. The main reasons for decline in manpower are as under :-

i) Natural wastage i.e. retirement and death etc.

ii) Reduction under Voluntary Retirement Scheme.

iii) Reorganisation of divisions/subsidiary companies.

NCES-Maharashtra

6669. SHRI ANANT GUDHE : Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) The various programmes of Non-conventional